



(12) **EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION**

(88) Date of publication A3:
14.05.2003 Bulletin 2003/20

(51) Int Cl.7: **A61M 37/00**, A61M 36/12

(43) Date of publication A2:
09.04.2003 Bulletin 2003/15

(21) Application number: **02080492.8**

(22) Date of filing: **15.12.1998**

(84) Designated Contracting States:
**AT BE CH CY DE DK ES FI FR GB GR IE IT LI LU
 NL PT SE**

(30) Priority: **29.12.1997 US 68996 P**

(62) Document number(s) of the earlier application(s) in
 accordance with Art. 76 EPC:
98963214.6 / 1 044 032

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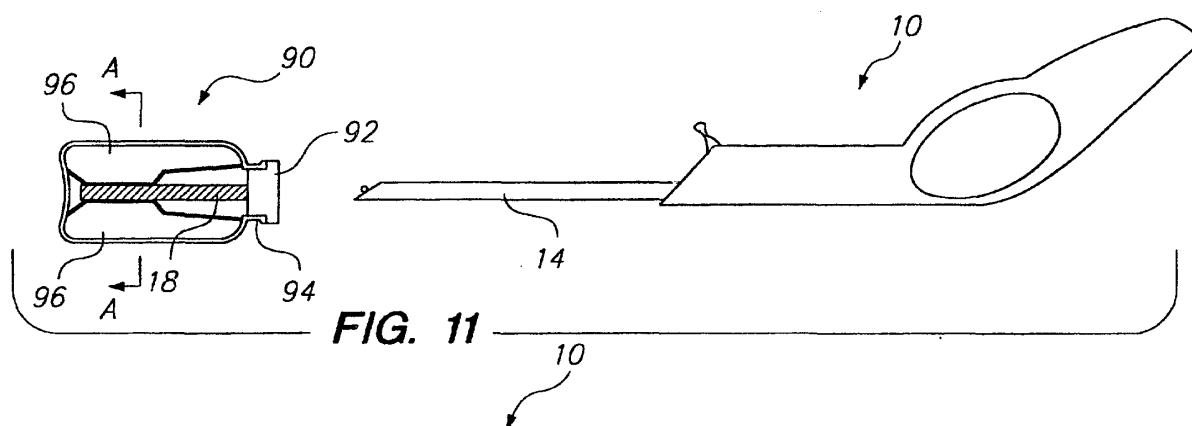
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(54) **Implant vial**

(57) An implant vial (90) is provided which comprises (i) an implant (18) containing a beneficial agent to be delivered, (ii) a vial body having an open end, (iii) an implant holding member (96) positioned within the vial body for retaining a position of the implant within the vial, (iv) a tapered mouth (94) in the open end of the vial for

directing a cannula (14) inserted into the open end of the vial body around the implant (18), and (v) a stopper (92) having a sealing surface arranged to seal a dispensing opening of the implant (18) to prevent the beneficial agent from leaking from the implant (18), the stopper (92) sealing the open end of the vial body.





European Patent
Office

EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
EP 02 08 0492

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int.Cl.7)
A	US 4 676 788 A (VINCENT) 30 June 1987 (1987-06-30) * abstract; figures 1,2 * ---	1-4	A61M37/00 A61M36/12
A	US 4 078 566 A (URBAN JR.) 14 March 1978 (1978-03-14) * abstract; figures 1,2 * -----	1-4	
			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int.Cl.7)
			A61M A61D A61J B65D
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search THE HAGUE		Date of completion of the search 26 March 2003	Examiner Michels, N
<p>CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS</p> <p>X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document</p> <p>T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document</p>			

EPO FORM 1503 03 82 (P04C01)

**ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT
ON EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION NO.**

EP 02 08 0492

This annex lists the patent family members relating to the patent documents cited in the above-mentioned European search report. The members are as contained in the European Patent Office EDP file on
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26-03-2003

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US 4676788	A	30-06-1987	NONE	

US 4078566	A	14-03-1978	NONE	

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For more details about this annex : see Official Journal of the European Patent Office, No. 12/82